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Appl. No. : 10/747,866
Filed : December 29, 2003

OCT 20 2006

REMARKS

The above amendments are made in response to the Office Action mailed April 26, 2006, and in accordance with the telephone interview of October 19, 2006. Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are currently in condition for allowance.

Claims 17, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 26-28 Are In Condition for Allowance

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 15-18, 20, 22, and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Vanderminden, Berry, and Rowland. During the interview of October 19, 2006, the Examiner and Applicant's attorney determined an approach that would overcome this rejection.

As indicated in the interview, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-16, 24, and 25. Claim 17 has been rewritten into independent form, incorporating limitations of Claim 16. In the interview, the Examiner agreed that if Claim 17 were so rewritten, and further amended to clarify that each mount portion comprises a recess, the amendment would overcome the Examiner's § 103 rejection. Claim 17 has been amended as such, and thus the Examiner's rejection has been overcome.

In the interview, the Examiner further agreed that if Claim 20 were amended to add a recess to the recited "spaced apart mount surfaces", the amendment would overcome the outstanding rejection. Claim 20 has been amended as such, and thus the Examiner's rejection has been overcome.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected several claims, including Claim 17, and associated dependent Claims 18 and 26-28, under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being vague and indefinite since certain language in the body of the claim appears inconsistent with the preamble. Amendments have been made to resolve this issue, and Applicant contends this rejection has been overcome.

Claims 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 because they depended from a cancelled claim (21). These claims have been amended to correct their dependency, and Applicant thus contends this rejection has been overcome.

Terminal Disclaimer

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 10/319,343, filed December 13, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,752,458. Applicant contends that all of the pending claims are currently in condition for allowance, and that there is no non-statutory, obviousness-type double

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patenting issue with the parent application. However, in order to speed prosecution and ensure that double patenting does not become an issue, Applicant has filed herewith a Terminal Disclaimer.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicant requests early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Applicant has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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